

Faculty Introduction:

A2 Geography attracts all sorts of students. Ambitious students, keen to go to university, can use it as an effective means to gain an excellent grade. The knowledge gained from studying contemporary issues, both globally and locally can also make a worthwhile addition to personal statements. Alternatively, pupils keen to get straight into the world of work, can use the time management, research and analysis skills which they will learn to increase their employability



Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

In Year 13, students continue to study the Edexcel Geography GCE syllabus to its completion. Students are examined in the two A2 level units at the end of Year 13 after they have studied how physical and human processes continually struggle against each other to control our world and after they have honed their personal research and report writing skills. There is also the opportunity to resit Year 12 units where necessary.

A2 Unit 3: Contested Planet - Students begin the year by considering the use and management of resources in today's world. Consumption patterns highlight stark inequalities between regions, countries and groups of people. Many resources are finite, and rising consumption means that difficult decisions over the use of resources will have to be taken more frequently. Teaching and learning in Year 13 focuses firstly on the completion of the topics of Energy Security and Biodiversity. The course then develops and expands to cover global issues such as how we Bridge the Development Gap, manage Water Security, and understand the historical formation, current role and future of Superpower nations. It concludes by examining how Technology might provide a fix to some of the world's problems.

A2 Unit 4: Geographical Research – As the year progresses, an emphasis is placed on students to research Tectonic Activity and Hazards for themselves. Although guided by staff and following an initial teacher lead programme introducing new concepts and ideas, students are encouraged to independently examine the causes, consequences and management of earthquakes and volcanoes and to prepare extensive reports into each area.

Assessment:

Formal external assessment of the A2 elements of the Edexcel GCE Geography course, take place at the end of Year 13 by examination. To assess academic progress during Year 13, students are tested regularly using past Edexcel AS exam papers and essays. These assessments are completed both in class and at home and are assessed before being fed back to students. They are also used as the working grades which are reported to parents on a termly basis.

Homework expectations/key deadlines:

Students should expect to receive 90 minutes of formal Geography homework per week. Homework is an integral part of the students learning and will be directly related to classroom teaching. Students are also expected to spend an additional 90 minutes informally each week, reading around the subject, improving knowledge and understanding to reinforce the work covered in class.

Enrichment activities/revision sessions:

Enrichment and extension activities include after school sessions provided in the summer term to improve student examination technique. These sessions take the form of online seminars delivered by Edexcel course leaders.

Useful websites for revision/revision guides/exam boards: